

Frederick County Sustainability Commission

Meeting Minutes

5/20/2015

FCSC Attendees: Tom Anderson, David Lange, Tim Jones, Margie Lance, Chris May, Annie Jones, Ron Kaltenbaugh, Joe Richardson, Robert Black, Mike Uecker, Chris Voell

OSER: Shannon Moore, Lisa Orr

Public: Mayor Don Briggs, Libby Briggs, Tyler and Jerry Muir (from Emmitsburg)

Alan Feinberg (Citizen) (301.606.6717)

Amy Castle-Rogers (Goodwill Monocacy Valley) acastlerogers@gimv.org

Sylvia Carignan (Frederick News Post)

Mike Swanson (Terra Solutions Engineering) (301.370.9842)

Welcome – 3 pm Introductory Comments:

- The Chair welcomed all FCSC attendees and guests, outlined the intent of the meeting and welcomed Mayor Don Briggs from Emmitsburg

Mayor Don Briggs and Jerry Muir (Highlights)

- ✓ Replaced 330 street lights with LED's (40% energy reduction)
- ✓ Utilizing latest European energy technology (Power Star from England)
 - Emmitsburg will be the first municipality using Power Star in the country
 - Power Star is installed at the building level (not residential) before the fuse box
 - Power Star only allows the electricity needed with a guarantee 10-13% savings
- ✓ 1.1 MW solar field supplies 19 accounts and the fire Co.
- ✓ Second 1.1 MW solar field on line in July for the waste water treatment plant
- ✓ 30 M in sustainability projects to be completed by 2017
- ✓ Two mile walk/bike path from Mount Saint Mary's to Town
- ✓ New bridges/highways/sidewalks
- ✓ More pedestrian and bicycle friendly projects (around 5 miles)

Mayor Briggs wants to get Emmitsburg to where it was 50 years ago

ACTION: Jerry Muir requested FCSC support for rain barrel and composting demonstrations for their Heritage Days

- The Vice Chair noted that the April meeting minutes were distributed and approved with one change (add meetings at end of one sentence). The Vice Chair will continue to prepare future Agenda's and Meeting Minutes.
- The Vice Chair reaffirmed the date of October 16, 2015 for the FCC/FCSC Sustainability Event and will report on the progress of the event at each Commission meeting. All Commission members are encouraged to volunteer to make presentations at Commission meetings
- Chris V. distributed an update to the FCC/FCSC October Event and asked for comments by June 1st
- Meeting Comments on October Sustainability Event:
 - Ron K. indicated we need a list of take-a way's and have the event look at the big picture
 - Lisa O. would like to see "how-to sessions" on the Neighbor Green Project
 - Joe R. is willing to give a hands-on session for composting, also wants participants to have contacts to take-away and see actions after the Event
 - Margie L. would like to have a session on Food
 - Margie indicated to be efficient, reduce un-needed paper and limit hand-outs (all being considered)
 - Tom would like to see publicity through the FNP green page
 - Chris V. wants to target people who can change policy

Sustainability Plan:

- Tom A. is reviewing all requirements and will continue to report out development at future meetings. October scheduled to have plan in place
- Tim J. previously indicated that there is an impact on existing residential properties. Tim will research commercial/industrial properties
- Lisa O. previously indicated we need more Green Challenge education
- Ron K. also indicated that cost and pricing stability is an issue

Spot Recognition Cert.:

- Mayor Don Briggs from Emmitsburg was presented the Sustainability Recognition Award for Emmitsburg from the FCSC Chair

OSER Updates:

- Permit effort is a backbone for OSER, driven by Regulatory compliance
- Completion of all watershed assessments will be done by end of 2016
- Discussion of MS4 program and MDE requirements

Commission Members Items of Interest:

- Joe R.
 - Is interested in community solar. Indicated a continued proposal for 10 acres on his farm. FCSC comments requested.
- Chris M. discussed TELSA battery pack project

- Tim J. continued to share a very interesting observation. In the process of performing energy efficient audits on residential properties, his company discovered carbon monoxide (CM) leaks with homes not having CM detectors. More to come on this issue.
 - Tim J. also would like to see energy efficient performance awards
 - Dave L. indicated that assistance will be needed by Commission members for the October Sustainability event. More to come as time gets closer.
 - Lisa O. indicated that:
 - Frederick County received the MD. Smart Energy Grant for two electric busses and LED upgrade program
 - Power saver retrofit program will be available for 125 family's with medium income
- **Tom A .reminded all to look for recognitions on sustainability initiatives.**

Other Reminders:

Further update discussion on FCSC Member Presentations Items of Interest (for the future):

July/August -Chris V. to briefly discuss Waste Management

- Phil Harris on FC Landfill???
- Mike &Tim- Std. for residential
- Chris M. – Solar and Energy grid
- Margie had indicated the following Spot Recognitions for the future, so as not to forget them:
 - North Point, Mercer Agri-Services, Mount St. Mary's

Reminder: Tad Shueson (English Muffin Factory) also wants to work with the County on energy incentives and property tax credits.

Public comments:

- Amy Castle-Rogers, Community Donations Manager for Goodwill Monocacy Valley discussed the "Goodwill at Your Door" initiative. All FCSC members were impressed

Executive Session: The Commission met in a closed session to discuss future applicants for upcoming vacant Commission member positions. Two of three applicants approved (earliest possible time). Shannon to send Joyce Grossnickle an e-mail indicating FCSC nominees.

Adjourn-The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.